

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

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WHITMAN

April 23, 2021

Dear Chair DeFazio and Ranking Member Graves:

I am requesting funding for the City of Spokane Valley South Barker Road Corridor project in surface transportation reauthorization legislation.

The project sponsor for this project is the City of Spokane Valley and the project is located at 10210 E. Sprague Ave., Spokane Valley, WA 99206.

The funding is designated for the widening and reconstructing 0.8 miles of Barker Road to a 5-lane urban arterial on either side of Interstate 90, between Mission Avenue and Appleway Avenue. The project will also widen and reconstruct another 0.8 miles of Barker Road to a 3-lane urban arterial from Appleway Avenue to the south City limit, near 10th Avenue. Single lane roundabouts will be installed at the intersections of Sprague Avenue, 4th Avenue, and 8th Avenue

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer dollars and is anticipated to benefit the area since extensive residential growth in Spokane Valley, Liberty Lake and Spokane County has overwhelmed this decades-old, undersized, rural 2-lane road. Without improvements, drivers travelling south through the intersection of Sprague Avenue will experience delays upwards of 5 minutes long. Just south of the City limits in Spokane County, over 500 residences have been permitted since summer 2019, adding more traffic to an already congested route in need of added capacity. To add to the demand, the City's 840-acre Northeast Industrial Area serving freight, commercial, and industrial businesses, has gone from 33% occupied in 2016 to nearly 80% occupied in 2021.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,



Cathy McMorris Rodgers
Member of Congress